GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Revenue Department – Departmental proceedings against Sri Koppala Balakrishna, Dy. Tahsildar, O/o Tahsildar, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District – Departmental proceedings under Rule 20 of APCS (CCA) Rules, 1991 – Article of charges – Issued.

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REVENUE (VIGILANCE.III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 695 **Dated: 30-09-2024**

Read:-

G.O.Ms.No.208, Revenue (Vig.III) Department, dt:30.09.2024

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ORDER:

It is proposed to hold an enquiry against Sri Koppala Balakrishna, Dy. Tahsildar, O/o the Tahsildar, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the APCS (CC & A) Rules, 1991 for committing irregularities noticed by the D.G., ACB during the trap conducted in the O/o Tahsildar, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District, on 17.09.2019.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct in respect of which the enquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of articles of charges (Annexure. I). A list of documents by which, and a list of witnesses by whom, the articles of charges are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure. II & III).

3. Sri Koppala Balakrishna, Dy. Tahsildar, O/o the Tahsildar, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is directed to submit within 10 days of the receipt of this order, a written statement of his defence.

4. Sri Koppala Balakrishna, Dy. Tahsildar, O/o the Tahsildar, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those articles of charges as are not admitted. He should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each article of charge.

5. Sri Koppala Balakrishna, Dy. Tahsildar, O/o the Tahsildar, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is further informed that if he does not submit his written statement of defense on or before the time specified in Para 3 above further actions will be processed based on the material available.

6. Attention of Sri Koppala Balakrishna, Dy. Tahsildar, O/o the Tahsildar, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is invited to Rule 24 of the APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interests in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the government. If any representation is received on his/her behalf from any other person in respect of any matter dealt with in these proceedings it will be presumed that Sri Koppala Balakrishna, Dy. Tahsildar, O/o the Tahsildar, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his/her instance and action will be taken against him/her for violation of Rule 24 of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

R P SISODIA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To:
Sri Koppala Balakrishna, Dy. Tahsildar, O/o the Tahsildar, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District ***through*** the Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., Mangalagiri.

The Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., Mangalagiri.

Copy to:

The District Collector, Srikakulam

Sf/Sc.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI KOPPALA BALAKRISHNA, S/O NARAYANARAO, Dy.TAHSILDAR, O/o TAHSILDAR, KOTTURU MANDAL, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN RC NO. 79/RCT-ACB-VSK/2019

That Sri Koppala Balakrishna, S/o Narayana Rao, aged 32 years Dy.Tahsildar, Kotturu Mandal, Srikakulam District (here-in-after referred as Government Servant) while function as such during the period between 16.7.2019 to 17.09.2019 (till the date of trap) committed grave misconduct in as much as:-

ARTICLE:-

That the Government Servant has supposed to download the applications received through Mee-Seva portal and handover the same to concerned field officers for verification and preliminary enquiry. But the Government Servant failed to download the application of the complainant and also failed to entrust the same to Sri K.M.M.Sundara Rao, VRO, in written.

Thus, Sri Koppala Balakrishna, Dy.Tahsildar, O/o Tahsildar, Kothuru, Srikakulam District by his above mentioned acts exhibited lack of devotion to duty, failed to maintain integrity, behaved in a manner unbecoming of Government servant and brought down the prestige of the Government and thereby violated the Rule 3(1) & 3(2) of A.P.C.S (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

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R P SISODIA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATIONS OF MISCONDUCT OR MISBEHAVIOUR IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI KOPPALA BALAKRISHNA, Dy.TAHSILDAR, O/o TAHSILDAR, KOTTURU MANDAL, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT

Sri Koppala Balakrishna, S/o Narayana Rao, Dy.Tahsildar, Kotturu Mandal, Srikakulam District is a native of Suryanarayanapuram village, Pathapatnam Mandal, Srikakulam District. He joined in the Government Service on 20.04.2018 as Dy. Tahsildar and posted at Collector Office, Srikakulam and then on 30.04.2018 he transferred and posted as D.T. (CS) at Tahsildar Office, Pathapatnam and then on 16.07.2019 he was transferred and posted as Dy. Tahsildar at Tahsildar Office, Kothuru. As on the date of trap i.e. on 17.09.2019 he worked at the MRO office, Kothuru as Dy.Tahsildar. He was born on 03.06.1987 and his date of retirement is on 30.06.2049. He is here-in-after called as Government Servant (G.S.).

CHARGE:

That the Government Servant has supposed to download the applications received through Mee-Seva portal and handover the same to concerned field officers for verification and preliminary enquiry. But the Government servant failed to download the application of the complainant and also failed to entrust the same to Sri K.M.M.Sundara Rao, VRO, in written. Thus he failed to maintain absolute integrity and devotion to duty and he has shown conduct unbecoming of a Government Servant.

FACTS AND EVIDENCE:

On a report submitted by Sri Savara Minnarao, Vennelavalasa village, Sarubujjili Mandal, Srikakulam District, a case in Cr. No. 08/RCT-ACB/SKL/2019 dated 17.09.2019 u/s 7 (a) of P.C. (Amendment) Act, 2018 of ACB, Srikakulam Range was registered against Sri Kotti Madan Mohan Sundara Rao, Village Revenue Officer, Althi Revenue cluster, I/c VRO, Neradi Revenue cluster, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District for demanding bribe amount of Rs.10,000/- from the complainant to process and submit report with regard to mutation and issuance of e-pattadar passbook in favour of mother in law of the complainant pertaining to lands situated at Metturuguda village, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam district.

On 17.09.2019 at about 13:00 hrs, Sri Kotti Madan Mohan Sundara Rao, Village Revenue Officer, Althi Revenue cluster, I/c VRO, Neradi Revenue cluster, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District was trapped when he further demanded and accepted the bribe amount of Rs. 10,000/- as bribe from the complainant at the office room of the Dy. Tahsildar (Civil Supplies) O/o Tahsildar,Kotturu.

During the trap proceedings, a made up file relating to the application of the complainant containing 8 sheets seized in the presence of the mediators on produced by the accused officer from his bag and on verification of the said Mee-Seva application there is no entrustment of the Dy.Tahsildar was found.

During course of investigation, the investigating officers examined the following witnesses.

Witness No.1 Sri Savara Minna Rao:- He is the complainant and speaks about the contents of his complaint dated 16.09.2019 submitted to the DSP, ACB, Srikakulam Range and the contents of pre-trap and post-trap proceedings dated 17.09.2019 to the extent concerning him and he stated that he gave his Mee – Seva application along

with the other documents to the accused officer on 10.09.2019. He also stated in his 164 Cr.P.C statement before the Hon'ble Magistrate, Srikakulam.

Witness No.2 Sri T.V.S.G. Kumar, RDO, Palakonda: During the course of investigation, the R.D.O, Palakonda vide his reply No 539/2019 A, dt. 09.10.2019 furnished his report about the procedural aspects and issuance of Pattadar pass book applied through in the Mee-Seva portal and according to him the Dy.Tahsildar, Kotturu failed to download the Mee-Seva application of the complainant through Mee-Seva portal and entrustment to the field officers i.e V.R.O and to follow the due procedure.

As per the circular instructions vide LR.II/ROR-2/712B/2016 dt 02.07.2016 issued by the CCLA-AP, Vijayawada, the DY Tahsildar concerned has to download the application and other details and send it to the VRO for preliminary verification. As per G.O.Ms No 463 dt 07.12.2015 of Revenue (Sec.ii) Department, the Dy.Tahsildar has to look after the functioning of the Mee-Seva project in the Tahsildar's office. But in this case the Dy Tahsildar has failed to download the Mee-Seva application from the portal and handed over the same to the VRO concerned for verification and report and failed to follow the procedure.

The 164 Cr.P.C statement of the complainant Sri Savara Minna Rao got recorded by 1st Addl. Judicial Magistrate of 1st class, Srikakulam on 28.09.2019.

Thus, the Government Servant, Sri Koppala Balakrishna S/o Narayana Rao, Dy.Tahsildar, Kotturu Mandal, Srikakulam District, by his above mentioned acts has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty, and conduct unbecoming of a Government servant and brought down the prestige of the Government and thereby violated the Rule 3(1) & 3(2) of A.P.C.S (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Thus, the Government Servant, Sri Koppala Balakrishna, Dy.Tahsildar, Kothuru Mandal, Srikakulam District rendered himself for regular departmental enquiry for major penalty under Rule 20 of APCS (CC & A) Rules, 1991.

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R P SISODIA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

ANNEXURE-III

LIST OF WITNESSES:

The following Oral evidence is available on record:

1. **Sri Savara Minna Rao**:- He is the complainant and speaks about the contents of his complaint dated 16.09.2019 submitted to the DSP, ACB, Srikakulam Range and the contents of pre-trap and post-trap proceedings dated 17.09.2019 to the extent concerning him and he stated that he gave his Mee – Seva application along with the other documents to the accused officer on 10.09.2019. He also stated in his 164 Cr.P.C statement before the Hon'ble Magistrate, Srikakulam.

2. **Sri T.V.S.G. Kumar, RDO, Palakonda:** During the course of investigation, the R.D.O, Palakonda vide his reply No 539/2019 A, dt. 09.10.2019 furnished his report about the procedural aspects and issuance of Pattadar pass book applied through in the Mee-Seva portal and according to him the Dy.Tahsildar, Kotturu failed to download the Mee-Seva application of the complainant through Mee-Seva portal and entrustment to the field officers i.e V.R.O and to follow the due procedure.

3. **Sri Peesa Narayanarao, S/o Simhachalam, aged 36 years, Lecturer in Telugu Literature, Government Degree College (Men), Srikakulam, R/o House No. 46, Opposite Chakradhar College near ACB Office, Srikakulam:-** He is the 1st mediator and speaks about the contents of Mediators Report-I & II dated 17.09.2019 & Mediators report dt. 17.10.2019 and etc, facts.

4. **Sri Parasana Kurmayya, S/o Surayya, aged 50 years, Jr. Asst., Government Degree College (Men), Srikakulam, R/o Bubamma Nagar, Balaga, Srikakulam:-** He is the 2nd mediator and speaks about the contents of Mediators Report-I & II dated 17.09.2019 & Mediators report dt. 17.10.2019 and etc, facts.

5. **Sri B.V.S.S. Ramana Murty, DSP, ACB, Srikakulam Range:-** He speaks about receipt of written report against the Govt. Servant from Sri Savara Minna Rao, pre-trap and post trap proceedings conducted, examination of witnesses etc. facts.

6. **Sri K. Bhaskara Rao, Inspector of Police, ACB, Srikakulam Range:-** He speaks about further investigation, examination of witnesses and finalization of the case etc, facts.

Any further witness is required, he / she will be produced at the time of enquiry.

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SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

ANNEXURE-IV

LIST OF DOCUMENTS:

The following documentary evidence is available on record**:**

1. **Copy of Complaint dated 16.09.2019 given by the complainant.**
The complaint reveals that the Government Servant demanded and accepted bribe amount of Rs.10,000/- from the complainant for sending enquiry report to Tahsildhar, Kothuru Mandal regarding the complainant's application to issue e-Pattadar passbook in favour of mother-in-law of the complainant, and etc., facts.

2. **Copy of FIR in Cr. No. 08/RCT-ACB/SKL/2019 dated 17.09.2019.**
It reveals that the complaint received from the complainant pertaining to demanding of the bribe by the Government Servant and registration of the FIR.

3. Copy of Mediators Report-I: It reveals the pre trap happenings from 08.30 hrs to 10.30 hrs on 17.09.2019.

4. Copy of Mediators Report-II: It reveals the post trap happenings on 17.09.2019.

5. Copy of Made up file relating to the application of the mother-in-law of complainant containing 08 sheets with regard to mutation and issuance of e-Pattadar Passbook for Ac.1.80 cents of land in Sy. Nos. 349-16, 341-8p, 343-13p, 343-14 and 517-12 of Metturuguda village, Kothuru Mandal in possession and enjoyment of Smt. Savara Sayamma of Metturuguda village, Neradi cluster which was seized during the post trap proceedings:- All the above documents/records show that the Government Servant had intentionally kept the work pending for mutation cum e-passbook work of the mother-in-law of the complainant with him for demanding bribe from the complainant.

6.Copy of Letter Roc. No. 539/2019 A, dt. 09.10.2019 of the Revenue Divisional Officer, Palakonda.

It shows the service particulars and Job Chart and procedural aspects in Mutation cum e-passbook and etc facts.

7. **Copies of Part-II Statements of witnesses 1 & 2 as per annexure- III of DACs:**

8. Copy of statement of complainant recorded U/s. 164 Cr.P.C.

It shows that the complainant Sri Savara Minna Rao supported the contents of FIR, Mediators Reports I & II dated 17.09.2022, to the extent concerning to him.

9. Copy of LR.II/ROR-2/712B/2016 dt 02.07.2016 issued by the CCLA-AP, Vijayawada and copy of G.O.Ms No 463 dt 07.12.2015 of Revenue (Sec.ii) Department

Any further document is required; it will be produced at the time of enquiry.

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R P SISODIA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT